

Inquiries of the Ministry

companies are confidential? Is the House not entitled to know those details?

[English]

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, it has been the general practice, I think, not to reply to questions of this type asking for exact details, including names, addresses and amounts of particular producers' business with the dairy commission.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon. member for Spadina and the hon. member for Fraser Valley West wish to ask supplementaries to the previous question. These are the only supplementaries that will be allowed for the moment on this subject and then we should move on to the next matter.

FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING BILL—EFFECT ON CONSUMER PRICES IN URBAN AREAS

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister. Has the government made an advance study of the effects of Bill C-176 on consumer food prices in urban areas such as Toronto, Ottawa and other cities across the country?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member would read some of the clauses of Bill C-176 he would note that consumers' interests are to be taken into account.

FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING BILL—CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION IN FACE OF POSSIBLE OPTING OUT BY PROVINCES

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I direct my supplementary to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has suggested to us that the passage of Bill C-176 might avoid certain constitutional problems in regard to import orders and free trade across Canada, and hopefully it will. But does the Prime Minister not agree that should some provinces or any province decide to opt out of the bill the government will still face the constitutional problem if the province that opts out insists on shipping its product into the common market area?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest to the hon. member that this is argument, it is debate, and a question in those terms is not in order. Does the hon. member wish to rephrase his question?

Mr. Rose: If I may raise a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I asked the Prime Minister whether he did not agree and he appeared almost ready to answer.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. When the hon. member asks a minister whether he agrees or does not agree he is of course inviting argument, and the hon. member puts himself out of court the moment he asks a question in those terms. The hon. member is now apparently agreeing to disagree and wishes to rephrase his question.

Mr. Rose: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether the government will not continue to

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

face the constitutional problem should a province decide to opt out of Bill C-176 and continue to insist that constitutionally it can ship its products into the common market area covered by the bill?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am inclined to agree that there will be difficulties even after Bill C-176 has been adopted if we do not get the co-operation of the provinces in the implementation thereof. However, this is not new. The hon. member will remember that as long ago as the Rowell-Sirois commission they were trying to come to grips with the problem of national marketing and the difficulty of reconciling it with provincial jurisdiction. Now, after some 30 years, the federal government has come up with a bill that tries to solve the problem by way of co-operation with the provinces and I am rather distressed that the opposition will not even permit us to try that course.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP—ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. When does the government plan to make public its views on the important matter of foreign investment in Canada, and does it intend to do so in the form of a white paper so that public debate on this matter may take place?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I answered a question in those very terms a few days ago. If the hon. member will look back through a few issues of *Hansard* he will find the answer.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I have looked through *Hansard* to see whether a satisfactory answer was given but none was. Would the Prime Minister say when the government intends to make its views known?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, that is the very question I answered last week.

[Later:]

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. A few minutes ago I asked the Prime Minister to advise the House when the government intends to make its views known on the importance of foreign investment in Canada. The Prime Minister told me he had answered that question last week. I have looked through all the questions last week. I find that on Thursday he answered an unrelated question but in no way did he make any attempt to say when the government intends to make its views known on this matter. Will he please do so now?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Come on, get up on your feet.